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Exports

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B.C. exports inched up 0.7% in the first three quarters of 2015.

Pulp and paper exports rose 3.6% year-to-date to September.

Energy product exports dropped 23.4% over the first nine months of 2015.

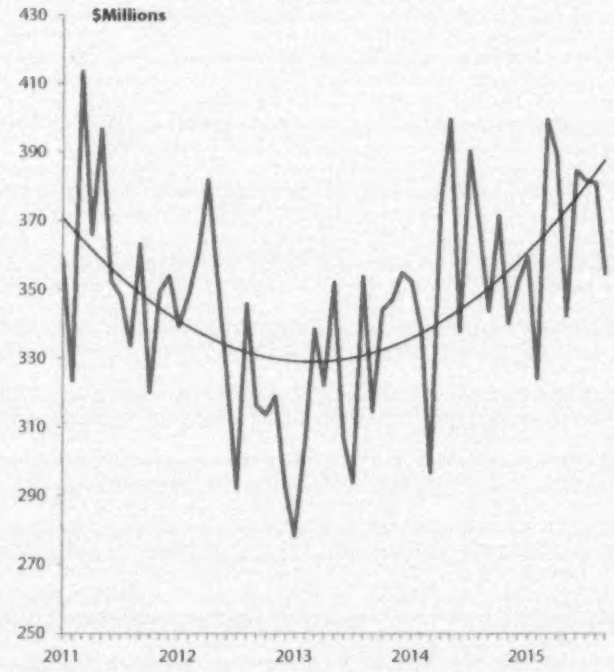
BY DESTINATION

B.C. origin exports edged up 0.7% in the first three quarters of 2015 compared to the same nine-month period in 2014. There was reasonably strong growth in shipments to the United States (+5.0%), B.C.'s largest trade partner, but several other major export destinations experienced a decline in exports. Shipments fell to Mainland China (-3.5%), Japan (-4.8%), South Korea (-14.9%), Australia (-4.3%) and Hong Kong (-10.9%). However, there was particularly robust growth in exports to Taiwan (+10.4%) and Mexico (+75.1%).

BY COMMODITY

Forest product exports have experienced healthy increases over the January to September period of 2015, compared to the first three quarters of 2014. Pulp and paper product shipments are up 3.6%, while exports of solid wood products have increased 4.2%. Shipments of logs bucked the trend, falling 17.5%.

B.C.'S PULP AND PAPER EXPORTS ARE ON THE UPSWING



Source: Statistics Canada / Prepared by BC Stats

Exports of metallic mineral products slumped 4.3% year-to-date to September. While shipments of copper ores and concentrates, which comprise around two-thirds of metallic mineral product shipments from B.C., dipped only 0.5%, there were substantial declines for other products in this commodity group. Exports of molybdenum ores and concentrates plunged

72.7%, shipments of zinc ores and concentrates fell 47.2% and exports of unwrought aluminum dropped 40.7%. With a 31.4% jump in shipments, unwrought zinc went against the overall downward trend for metallic mineral products.

Exports of energy products fell 23.4% over the first three quarters of 2015, compared to the same period a year earlier. The value of natural gas shipments slumped 41.8%, which was entirely due to lower prices, as the quantity of gas exported actually climbed 4.7%. Although the value of exports of electricity increased a substantial 30.1%, lower prices affected this good too, as the quantity of electricity transmitted across the border climbed 70.1%. Shipments of coal (-14.1%) and other energy products (-30.2%) both fell in value, contributing to the overall decline.

There was strong growth in exports of machinery and equipment year-to-date to September, with shipments climbing 18.4%. This included a 60.0% jump in exports of aircraft and parts.

Exports of agriculture and food products expanded 22.8% over the first three quarters, while shipments of fish products rose 17.3%. Other commodities to experience strong growth in exports include chemicals and chemical products (+18.4%), plastics and articles of plastic (+12.5%) and fabricated metal products (+4.1%).

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED EXPORTS

Seasonal adjustment provides a means of making month-to-month comparisons by removing the periodic seasonal fluctuations that occur. Variations from normal seasonal patterns are revealed in the seasonally adjusted series.

The value of B.C.'s commodity exports edged up 0.6% in September with a 5.3% rise in exports of energy products and a 23.0% jump in shipments of chemical, plastic and rubber products leading the way. Growth was tempered by declines of 2.3% in exports of forestry products and building and packaging materials and 3.8% in shipments of consumer goods.

Almost all of the growth was in shipments to the United States, which climbed 1.2%, as exports to the rest of the world was almost unchanged from August. Energy products (+17.9%) and industrial machinery, equipment and parts (+16.8%) drove much of the growth in shipments to the U.S., with a 3.6% drop in exports of forestry products and building and packaging materials partially offsetting some of that increase. In contrast, exports of energy products to the rest of the world fell 7.0%. A 76.7% surge in shipments of chemical, plastic and rubber products helped mitigate declines in exports of other goods.

Visit the exports and imports page on the BC Stats website.

DID YOU KNOW?

The other 11 countries included in the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade agreement (the United States, Mexico, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore, Brunei, Chile, and Peru) are the destination for around 65% of B.C.'s total exports and 81% of Canada's exports.